

L O N D O N .

Yesterday advice was received from General Bubec, Governor to Prince William Henry, who gave an account that his Highness is perfectly recovered.

Yesterday, at the levee, Col. Pringle had the honour to be presented to the King, and to kiss his Majesty's hand, on his arrival from Spain.

We are told, that nothing would exceed the politeness and attention which Col. Pringle received from every person at the Court of Madrid; and that he owed his being released as a hostage, to the solicitations of the Duke de Crillon.

It is said, the Colosel has brought some very important dispatches from thence, which may possibly tend to a peace between that kingdom and Great Britain.

Yesterday, Samson Wright, Esq; one of the presiding Magistrates at the Police in Bow-street, was introduced to his Majesty at St James's, and had the honour of Knighthood conferred upon him.

Yesterday a great many letters were delivered at the Post-Office from New York, brought over in the Pearl, which is arrived at Cork. Before this vessel sailed, Admiral Digby had received advice of Vaudreuil having left the Cape; and from the preparations that were making by the enemy, he concluded his destination was Rhode-Island. When this vessel left Sandymouth, they had not heard any thing of the Cork fleet, which sailed from thence the 3d of May, under convoy of the Jason frigate of 52 guns, Capt. Pigot.

The Virginia, Hazard, fell in off the Chesapeake with four sail, mounting in all, forty guns, of which she captured two ships, laden with 6000 barrels of flour, and a schooner with eighty hogheads of tobacco, all of which are arrived at New-York.

Two noblemen, of the Rockingham party, it is said, are planning a general coalition in aid of the enemy, if a peace should not take place.

If the Earl of Shelburne, says a correspondent, really means to abandon the American war, as his friends would have us believe, why not withdraw the British troops from that continent: their hands are already tied up from acting, by General Conway's motion, carried last winter in Parliament. Why not acknowledge the independence of that country? They are already independent in every thing but the sense of British recognition. Why not offer the Americans a voice in the General Congress, proposed to meet for the acceleration of a peace, especially as a peace can never be obtained without it?

Lord Shelburne declares in all companies, that France will not make a peace at present.

The following are said to be the terms of the alliance, which is so near being concluded with the Empress of Russia;

1. That the King of Prussia shall be included. This is demanded by the Empress.

2. A million a year to be paid to Russia, and an acknowledgement to Prussia for acceding.

3. Russia to assist England with 20 sail of the line fully manned, and 10,000 Russian infantry, to serve as marines on board the English ships of war.

4. Minorca to be reconquered and ceded to Russia, and put into the hands of persons appointed to govern it by the Empress.

5. Some island in the West-Indies, inhabited or desolate, but with a safe port, to be put into the hands of Russia, and ceded to her.

6. The King of Prussia demanded, in the course of the negotiation, 400,000 l. a year subsidy from England.

There are other articles, but these are the principal. The treaty is on the point of being executed, if it is not actually concluded by this time. It is quiet, nor is it known where it is to be signed, by his engagements with France, to attack Russia; and the King of Prussia will not appear in it. The treaty will therefore take effect, and probably prove the salvation of this country.

Every idea of Gibraltar seems to have been swallowed up in the vortex occasioned by the sinking of the Royal George; for since that ship went down, Gibraltar has been no longer thought of: ill-fated garrison! it lives in the memory of every nation in Europe, except that of England, which ought to be bound by every tie of gratitude, pride, and interest to relieve it!

Letters received yesterday from Portsmouth say, that orders were come down for 500 troops to be embarked on board some merchantmen which are lying there for the West Indies, and that they are expected to sail from thence in the course of a few days, under convoy of the Proserpine frigate, Capt. Taylor, and two sloops.

It is supposed, from the orders given for the East-India Company's ships to sail immediately, that the combined fleets are all in port, and no danger to be apprehended in crossing the Bay of Biscay.

This morning twenty sail of ships from St. Thomas's, Riga, &c. arrived in the river.

A letter from Paris, received on Tuesday, has the following article: "The enemies of Count de Graffé are greatly disappointed: they expected as soon as he arrived he would have been immediately thrown into prison, and brought to trial; instead of which he was well received at Court. It is certain he is to be tried, but it is only a matter of form. Those whom the Count has charged with a neglect of duty, on the 12th of April, are to undergo a strict trial, and it is not doubted but they will meet with their just punishment, not only for their cowardice, but also for their treachery to the Count."

A private letter from the Hague says, that advice is received there from Paris, that the negotiation for a peace is stopped, until the Court of Great Britain gives an answer whether they will acknowledge the independence of the Americans, and agree that they should be included in the peace; that it is greatly feared there that his Britannic Majesty will not agree to those terms, and therefore they apprehend that peace is not so near as it is wished for by the people in general.

Letters from Madrid advise, that the public have been thrown into the utmost consternation imaginable, by a confirmation of the intelligence respecting a rebellion in South America, and that the artifices of Government to conceal the fact, were treated with contempt and indignation. These letters add, that a change in the Ministry is speedily expected, the present members of the Cabinet having rendered themselves extremely unpopular by so gross an imposition on the public credulity, in a matter so highly interesting to every subject of the Crown of Spain.

Advice is received from Corunna by the way of France, that

a Spanish frigate, in chasing the Hector privateer just off there, got upon a sand-bank and stuck fast; on which the Hector tacked about and fired at the Spanish frigate, and damaged her so much in the hull that she soon filled with water, (the sea running high) and sunk, the crew with difficulty got on shore, but the ship is entirely lost.

The Dutch have no more than twelve sail of the line ready at the Texel, as will appear by the following list; the other part of the squadron, with which Admiral Hartinck first sailed from the Texel, having been detached with their East and West India fleets, consisting of six sail of the line, three of 44 guns, and three frigates.

Admiral Hardinge's squadron, now at the Heilda, which is the entrance into the Texel Sound, as the Nore is to the River:

Amiral General	76	Vice Adm. Hartinck
Amsterdam	68	Vice Ad. Comte Byland
Shortenar	63	Capt. Horste
Union	68	Capt. de Welden
Amiral Ruyter	60	Capt. Staringe
Prince Frederic	60	Rear Adm. Van Hoye
Rhynland	56	Capt. Mulder
Batavie	56	Capt. Boocht
Glinthorst	54	Capt. Aberon
Amiral Piet Hein	54	Rear Adm. Van Braam
Prince Louise	56	Capt. de Kijtzen
Hercules	64	Capt. Curteene
Sepe Province	70	Unknown
Centaur	74	Ditto

The last three are new ships never yet out of harbour.

N. B. It must be observed, that the Union is on shore, and the Prince's Louise has been so much damaged, that she is going to be broken; & that although there appears 14 ships of the line, only twelve are now ready for sea.

land, a new Spanish ship of war of 70 guns, from Spain and England, a new Spanish ship of war of 70 guns, from Spain and England, founded immediately in Fergal harbour, with all her guns, &c. on board; but though she sunk in thirty fathom water, the Spaniards hove her up. She was called the Gullardo, and is now in the service.

The famous Earl Bathurst, father of the late Chancellor, was a few years ago thus accosted by a violent member of the then opposition in Parliament: "From this day, my Lord, we may date the ruin of the nation." "That cannot be," answered the Earl, "for about fifty years ago I proved, in the finest speech I ever made in Parliament, that the nation was ruined on that very day."

Anecdote.—The new 90 gun ship, the Atlas, lately launched at Chatham, had at her head the figure supporting the globe. By an error the globe was placed so high, that part of it was obliged to be cut away before the bowsprit could be fitted in. This part happened to be no other than all North America, which was an American.

Extract of a letter from Fare, Aug. 15.

"The frigate, El Sybillade, of 28 guns, arrived here with a convoy from Smyrna, advises, that she passed Gibraltar on the 12th, at which period she saw plainly 25 pendants flying off that place, of which she counted 18 Spanish, and seven French. Some of them appeared large ships, and were at anchor, the others cruising to and fro, at the mouth of the bay. There were two flags among them."

Extract of a letter from Rome, Aug. 20.

"His Eminence Cardinal Buffalini, Bishop of Ancona, died at that city on the 4th instant. He was elevated to the purple in 1776 by Clement XIII., and was about 73 years of age. He was found dead in his robes, his head leaning on his left hand, and holding a letter from Rome in his right."

Extract of a letter from Paris, Aug. 27.

"Mr. Fitzherbert has not yet left this capital, but will remain here a few days longer. Reports are circulated, that the obstacles to a negociation are entirely removed; and that a peace will certainly take place in the course of the winter. There is not a soul here but will be exceedingly glad of it. We have just now received intelligence of the arrival of another convoy from the West Indies, with four French, and two Dutch men of war. The latter have 26 vessels, with them for different parts of Holland; but it is believed they will not yet attempt the passage home."

Extract of a letter from Canterbury, Aug. 31.

"A person said to be arrived in an Imperial vessel, has sent us the following account: "That in lat. 30° 40' N. lon. 02° 00' W., he fell in with the Nymphe and Dolphin frigates on the 4th of August, who informed that St. Kitt's was in the possession of the English; he said, it may be depended on, as he received it from Captain Foord of the Nymphe. At the time he was speaking to the above ships, a fleet of American merchantmen, consisting of 25 sail, appeared about six leagues, on the Imperial ship's quarter, to which the frigates immediately gave chase."

Extract of a letter from Gosport, Sept. 4.

"A diving bell is now making at dock, and a gentleman, surgeon of an India ship, will to-morrow go down first in the harbour, and on Saturday morning (should the weather prove favourable) he will go down on board the Royal George. I suppose numbers of people will attend him, as no experiment of the kind has been made at Spithead."

"Arrived this day from the Downs a number of ships, colliers, &c. under convoy of a line of battle ship; they left port of Lord Howe's fleet in the Downs on Monday."

"Sailed the Aurora frigate on a cruise."

Extract of a letter from Portsmouth, Sept. 3.

"The extraordinary accident at Portsmouth carried me down to the spot, and I have no doubt but the disaster was occasioned by great carelessness only. Most certain it is, that she was hoisted beyond all former practice, and with all her guns out. Upon her being first perceived to go, an officer ran hastily to Capt. W. and imparted his suspicions, who immediately ordered him to pipe all hands to quarters, and right ship. The Admiral's cock-wain, at the same instant, ran into the great cabin with the same intelligence; but the water followed him with so much rapidity, that he was forced to take the stern gallery, from whence he swam ashore. The Admiral, he says, made an effort to follow him, but he is not sure whether he cleared the ship. A black was down on Saturday for two minutes, and came up with a dismal account of dead bodies, one of which (notwithstanding what has been said) has yet appeared upon the surface. An officer, he says, he perceived standing upright between decks, but could not be sure that it was the Admiral, for whose body tools is offered."

"A machine is preparing in the dock-yards, within which a

man has undertaken to go down to the ship, and to stay long enough there to unloose the guns, preparatory to their being weighed up. If that important service can be performed, the vessel will be recovered, and the dead interred."

PRICE OF STOCKS, SEPT. 5.

Bank Stock	114 1/2	s 4
4 per cent. Ann. 1777,	22 1/2	s 2
3 per cent. cons.	56 1/2	s 4 1/2
3 per cent. red. shill.	—	—
3 per cent. 1746,	—	—
Long Ann. 162 1/2	11-16ths	—
Short Ann. 1778, 12 1/2	9 1/2-10ths	—
India Stock, 127.	—	—
3 per cent. Ann.	—	—
India Bonds, 1 prem.	—	—
South Sea Stock, —	—	—

WIND AT DEAL,
SEPT. 4. E.

EDINBURGH.

Extract of a letter from London, Sept. 5.

"From the insurrections in Spanish America it is said, we are indebted for those important dispatches which are brought over by Colonel Pringle. The Dons are now convinced of the necessity there is of exerting all their force in quelling that rebellion, which their unexampled and perpetual cruelty, hath so long and atrociously excited. Besides the loss of the pecuniary advantage attending their colonies would be to them, in the present era of politics, the loss of empire in the scale of European powers; they are not in a state to earn the riches which now supports them; and had they means, their dispositions are too proud for their application. A minister must first be found who can turn the current of their lazy and religious prejudices, before they can with safety depend upon themselves even for a subsistence, and much less a preservation of that consequence which they now hold in respect to other powers."

"There are now twelve sail of the line ready to be detached from Lord Howe's fleet, to escort the ships belonging to the East India Company, which are ordered to sail immediately. Of this we had an opportunity of giving intimation to our readers some weeks since."

"It appears, from the report of an officer who arrived in town from Portsmouth yesterday, that the Royal George cannot be raised to the water's edge by any power whatever, in a perpendicular direction, but that the design is to drag her into shallow water; that a machine, capable of holding four men, was formed, to enable them to fix hooks to her beams, which, when effected, they were in the hopes to draw her, by the assistance of four ships appointed for that purpose; that very few bodies had as yet been driven on shore, upon account that the crew were chiefly below in their births, cabins, and quarters; that a nephew, not a son of Captain Waggon, was unfortunately lost in the ship; and that the total number of persons lost on this melancholy occasion, including men, women, and children, did not exceed five hundred."

"The masts of the Royal George may be seen from the land, and it is assigned as the principal cause of her going down, that sudden and violent rapidity, that as she lay on her side, her whole tier of water casks, on the opposite side gave way, and gave her the unfortunate overbalance to much lamentation, and which does not appear to be chargeable to the account of any neglect of human foresight."

"His Majesty has conferred the honour of Knighthood, and the Riband of the Marquis of Rockingham, deceased, on his Grace the Duke of Rutland."

Died, yesterday, at his house, Richard Legrand, of Bonnington, Essex.

Yesterday sailed from Leith Roads, to go under convoy of the Flirt-sloop of 24 guns, the Friendship, Ritchie; Pomona; and Lovely Mary, Beatson; all for London.

A correspondent is of opinion, that a regular constitutional defence for Scotland, under the control of the principal persons of property in the country, and the civil Magistrates, would be more safe, lasting, and useful, than the plan of raising volunteer corps under indiscriminate officers. The stretch of the bill now proposed, he says, is the best calculated for the internal defence of a country he ever heard of, being powerful, without oppression, and at the smallest expence ever devised.

"There is little doubt that the English, when acquainted with this plan, will wish to adopt it; for the men are relieved annually; no exercise required in seed-time or harvest; and, if duty requires their appearance, they are paid by Government. The whole 25,000 men proposed to be taught the use of arms annually, will not exceed the expence of three regiments of dragoons."

Extract of a letter from Stirling, Sept. 7.

"The Circuit Court of Justiciary was opened here upon Thursday the 5th instant, by the Right Honourable Lord Hailes; but there being no business to come before the Court, it was adjourned till yesterday; and thereafter till Tuesday the 10th instant, when they proceed for Glasgow."

"The weather here is very warm, with fogs evening and morning; and the wheat harvest is becoming general upon the banks of the Forth."

Extract of a letter from Newcastle, Sept. 7.

"Wednesday, at Whittingham fair, there was a large show of black cattle. The fat sold well, but the lean rather low."

"Monday the harvest began in this neighbourhood, which we are happy to hear turns out much better than expected; and we have the same pleasing accounts from several parts in the country; so that if the present fine weather continues, it will soon become general."

"At Morpeth market on Wednesday, there was new oats, which sold at twelve shillings the bushel."

Extract of a letter from Dublin, September 3.

"Sunday morning one of the aids-de-camp belonging to Earl Temple, together with some of his domestics and carriages, arrived in the Le Despencer packet, Furnace, from Holyhead; for which place she sailed in the evening with his Grace the Archbishop of Cashel and his lady; Sir Edward Newenham and his lady; Mr. Kelly, one of the messengers, and an express. — Sir Edward was escorted to the water-side at Rogerson's Quay, by the Liberty Rangers, of which he is Colonel."

"We hear that Lord Temple is not expected in Dublin before the 26th inst."

"Upwards of 200 brave fellows have been raised in this city, and its neighbourhood, within these ten days past for the sea-service."

"The wheat-har

Lord Mayor will be enabled, at entering upon his office, to assess the value of household bread up to ten pounds for a year.
read of a letter from a gentleman at Quebec, to his friend Edinburgh, dated July 17. 1782.

The resolutions of Parliament to put an end to the American war, are, I am afraid, not transmitted to Canada, for the work of butchery is still carrying on in the upper parts of the province. A Colonel Clark commanding a large party of Americans in the Illinois country, has been for some years making an attempt upon Fort Detroit, but hitherto has always been defeated by the vigilance and activity of the Indians. Clark had assembled about four thousand men, and in letters, we have heard that he was on his march to Detroit.

He had ordered a Major Crawford to advance before main body, with about five hundred men, and they had already reached San Douskie, in the neighbourhood of Detroit; when intelligence was brought to Major Depyster, the commanding officer at the fort; he instantly collected all the men he could, and sent a Mr Caldwell, a young American, them, and a party of regulars, to surprise Major Crawford, before he was joined by Clarke. He did so effectually, as completely routed the party, and took about two hundred prisoners.

The Indians who were the chief actors in this scene, over the prisoners to their women, who instantly tomahawked every man of them with the most horrid circumstances.

It is not usual for the Indians to put their prisoners to death, but the Americans had this spring destroyed an Indian town, and put their women and children to the sword, for whom the Indians nations are resolved to take full revenge, as Crawford and his party woefully experienced."

FOR THE CALEDONIAN MERCURY.

On the Loss of the ROYAL GEORGE Man of War.

By a LADY.

SHE, where BAZZANIA sadly weeping stands!

O'er Albion's cliffs she hangs her drooping head;

She mourns, alas! for these her native lands—

For heroes lost—for KEMPTENELT's now dead!

Bury'd at once in a wide wat'ry grave,

Nine hundred of her sons sunk in the deep!

For help they call, but none, alas! can save—

At once they drop to an eternal sleep!

How many fathers mourn their sons deplored!

How many wives their husbands! but in vain:

Alas! the gallant youths are now no more—

Zuguh'd they lie beneath the swelling main.

Joyous and happy, thoughtless of their fate,

They sat, perhaps, the cheerful board around,

When, with its mighty waves, the Ocean great

Rush'd in upon them with tremendous sound.

What dread, what terror, must have spread thro' all,

When sinking down thus in their wat'ry tomb!

What piercing accents from each mouth would fall!

But, ah! how short! for now their time was come!

Soon, soon they sink—but so shall not their name,

While KEMPTENELT among these warriors fell;

Long shall harve KEMPTENELT yet live in fame,

And latest ages his renown shall tell.

The ROYAL GEORGE, alas! is now no more!

Sunk to the Ocean's bottom like a stone:—

But Britain still has warlike sons in store;

And ROYAL GEORGE yet reigns on Britain's throne.

—
v, Sept. 3. 1782.

FOR THE CALEDONIAN MERCURY.

L E T T E R IV.

To the REAL FREEHOLDERS of SCOTLAND.

MEN,

My third letter I endeavoured to prove to you, that the giving a Freeholder more votes than one, in respect of his property, was unconstitutional: I shall now venture a little further than I undertook; I will assert it is inconsistent with policy.

A stock of a civil society consists in the lives, the liberties, properties of the individuals which compose the society. In case of convenience, it has been found proper to intrust the defence and improvement of that stock to the management of a few. I never could discern, that because one of few was richer than another, he ought therefore to have more votes in the management and conduct of that stock. Double share of property carried along with it a double share of wisdom, a double share of public spirit, these, combined with one another, might perhaps produce a plea for giving such circumstances, a plurality of votes in the conduct of public stock, or in the choice of the directors. But, in experience, I have not found, that the richest men were the most wise, or had the greatest share of public spirit.

*Nam si divites prudentem reddere possent,
Si cupidum timidumque ministris; nempe ruberes
Vires in terris, te sequis avarior uno.*

Horace.

We men have a strange way of reasoning upon this topic. Will ever consider a civil society in the same light with a body of merchants, associated in partnership for carrying on a branch of commerce, where the only stock is property. A society, property is the most incon siderable part. It is proportion to life or liberty. These are comprehensive including every thing that is truly valuable to mankind, possession of health, the enjoyment of all the moral sense, even the gratification of the passions, and the sense of fancy. In comparison with life and liberty, and these include, what being has property so far as concerns

some of the nominal casuists, who, by the bye, have not care of their own, will, perhaps, stand up and say, How is that land is made the qualification? Is it not the intent of law, that land should be rejected? And if so,

should not that representation be in proportion to quantity? Has not a man who pays double taxes, a double right to vote in laying these taxes on? And does not that great commonwealth's man, Mr Harrington, tell us, that power follows property.

I answer to these gentlemen, that Sir William Blackstone has assigned the reason why electors and elected ought to have property; namely, that they may be, if they please, independent; that they may be of such a station as to be considered free agents, and to have a will of their own. This is the reason that they should have property; not that their property should be represented. I wish gentlemen would consider what they mean by a representation of lands. The ploughing of land, the inclosing of land, the dunging of land, are intelligible terms; but the representing of land appears to me to be absolute gibberish and jargon. Should Squire Blackacre stand up in the House of Commons, and say, I have twice the number of acres, twice the number of tenants, that Mr Whiteacre has, and therefore my arguments are twice as good as his, and I ought to have two votes for his one; Mr Blackacre would be considered, in my opinion, a more fit member for Bedlam, than for St Stephen's Chapel.

As for the arguments about taxes, it supposes taxes to be the only subject of legislation. But were it so, it would not follow, that men of the greatest property should have the greatest interest in laying them on; for they can pay them best, and they feel them least; and there are many taxes that affect the poor more than the rich. It may be true that Mr Harrington says in his *Oceana*, that power follows property. He tells us, indeed, that Mr Hobbes says so; and admits it to be said truly. But so far from saying, that political power should follow property, his whole book is written to show how the law of property which follows property should be restrained, as being inconsistent with liberty.

The Oligarchs tell us, that the nature of Parliament is greatly changed: "That the service there was formerly a counted a burden, but is now eagerly sought after as a valuable acquisition." Ergo, what? Ergo men of great property have the best right to fill the House of Commons with their dependents!

What can be said, Gentlemen, of the picture which this would exhibit of the times, and of the advantage which designing men would make of them? Do they exalt the dignity of Parliament, who, instead of an august assembly, deliberating upon the public weal, would make it a market for offices, places, and pensions? and then the only qualification would be, who should have the best right to the exclusive trade in that market?

But I submit to you, Gentlemen, whether independent electors are not the most likely to chuse independent members, and to prevent the great Council from being made a market-place, by restoring it to its former nature, character, and dignity.

So much for my second proposition. I come now to the third; concerning Peers; and I do assert, that their having any votes in the House of Commons, or in the election of members to the House of Commons, is unconstitutional, and repugnant to our most ancient and express statutes.

In my second letter, I recited the words of these statutes, particularly that of James VI. in 1687, expressly declaring, "That no person should take upon him the function, office, or place of all the three estates, or of two of them, but shall only occupy the place of that self estate wherein he componibly professes himself to live, and whereof he takes his title." And by the act of 1661, in the reign of Charles II, appointing who shall be capable to vote in the election of Commissioners for shires, Noblemen and their vassals are expressly excepted; and the same act, when it appoints the expence of Commissioners to be levied upon the estates of the heirs in the county, the estates of Noblemen and their vassals are excepted from being subject to the tax.

There is not a principle in our constitution more firmly established, than that Peers are not to intermeddle in any manner, or to influence the election of the Commons; and this is a standing resolution of the British House of Commons. Nevertheless, by means of these nominal and fictitious qualifications, particularly those created by liberators and wadlers of superiority, Peers have got the command of the elections in many counties; and they are daily making such inroads upon the rights of the Freeholders, in the nomination of members of Parliament, that, in Scotland, unless some remedy is provided, we are in hazard of a complete aristocracy; by the annihilation of the rights of the ancient Freeholders.

The constitution of our Parliament in three separate powers, the King, Lords, and Commons, has justly been the admiration and envy of Europe. The high pitch of glory and power to which this little island has been raised by that constitution alone, let historians tell. A cloud hangs over us at present; and every man who loves the constitution is called upon, by the common voice of his country, each in his own department, to do every thing in his power to preserve, I wish I were not obliged to say, to restore the purity and the balance of that constitution which has exalted us so high, and which alone is capable to dispel that dismal cloud.

Machiavel, a great statesman, lays it down as a maxim, that commonwealths ought frequently *ripligiar lo statu*, to resume and restore the ancient constitution. Never was there more occasion for the application of that maxim than at this moment. This great and glorious machine, the British constitution, is composed of various wheels and springs, which are actuated and kept in motion by separate agents: Any one failing in his part, deranges the whole; and every member ought to consider his own part, as necessary for the preservation of the whole. Our part is, as Freeholders, and no mean part it is, to preserve the elections of members of Parliament from an undue and an unconstitutional influence; and, in that view, to do every thing in our power to debar from elections all influenced and unconstitutional voters. In what way or ways we are to set about accomplishing this great end, shall be the subject of my next letter.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your most devoted humble servant.

AN OLD FREEHOLDER.

To the Printer of the CALEDONIAN MERCURY.

SIR,

If political disquisitions have left a spare corner in your paper, it will oblige, perhaps, more than one of your readers, if you will insert the following remarks. I am, Sir, yours etc.

P H Y S I C U S.

E V E R Y body must have observed, that sounds are heard at a greater distance, and with greater distinctness, by

night than by day. It is a common thing with persons in the Highlands of Scotland, who are separated by the lakes, to converse with one another, in the stillness of the night, across the water, where it would have been vain to attempt being heard by day. There is an odd fancy which prevails pretty universally among the vulgar, with regard to the cause of this phenomenon: it is, That the sun, in his course through the heavens, produces a rustling noise, which, like the fall of a cataract, blinds every sound by day, and occasions the indistinctness of hearing. The following observations, I hope, will account for this fact, in a more philosophical manner:

In the first place, then, to account for the distinctness of hearing by night, we must take into our reckoning the stillness which prevails so universally in that season. Man, and every other animal, has retired to rest; the numerous swarms of insects which buzz about in the air by day, have quitted their stations, and every thing is sunk in solemn silence. The confusion of sounds, produced by the activity of waking animals, has no doubt a considerable effect in rendering hearing indistinct by day; and the removal of those circumstances must produce a contrary effect by night. But this does not seem sufficient to account altogether for the phenomenon. In winter, there are few or no insects buzzing about in the air, and there are many places where there is no confusion of sounds produced by the voices or activity of animals; yet the same effects are observed to take place. They must therefore be ascribed to a more general cause.

It is well known that the air is the vehicle of sound; and as the state of the air is liable to many variations, it will be at one time more proper for the conveyance of sound than at another. In a perfect vacuum, there can be no communication of sound, because there is no air; but it is a fact, that, as the air is more or less rarified, it approaches more or less to a vacuum.

It follows, therefore, that when the air is highly rarified, it will be less proper for serving as a vehicle to sound; and, when it is condensed, it will be fitter for this purpose:—Now, it is well known, that the rarefaction of this element is produced by heat, and its condensation by cold. During the day, the air is rarified by the influences of the sun; it is therefore less fitted for the conveyance of sound;—but when the sun is below the horizon, this element recovers its denseness; the cold restores it to a proper degree of elasticity, and sounds are communicated to the greatest distance. To this may be added another circumstance,—that the air, especially in fine weather, is less agitated by currents by night than by day, which arises from the same cause—the different degrees of rarefaction.

Is it not from this principle that we must account for another circumstance also well known, viz. That sounds are easily conveyed to a great distance, along the surface of water: The coolness of that element condenses the air which is in contact with its surface, and thus renders it more proper for the communication of sound than the more rarified air in the higher regions.

The same principle accounts also for the fact.—That in crowded assemblies, where the air is highly rarified by the heat arising from breathing and perspiration, and where there is no free circulation of air, the voice of the speaker is lost, though, with the same exertion, in a more favourable situation, it could command a much more numerous audience.

SOUND SHIPPING.

PASSED THE SOUND.

Aug. 20. Katy and Peggy of and from Leith, Skirvine, for Peterburgh, in ballast.

Farmer and Janet of Kincardine, Stewart, from Alloa, for Peterburgh, in ballast.

ARRIVED AND REMAIN.

27. Ann of Inverkeithing, Martin, for Peterburgh, for Sealock, with flax and iron.

29. Thames of Bo-ness, Syme, from Memel, for Sealock, logs.

20. Elizabeth of Dundee, Bowman, from Peterburgh, for Dundee, with flax and iron.

The following ships, who left the fleet the 2d instant, have got safe into Arandale in Norway, viz.

Nancy of Linlithgow, Banner, from Memel, for Limekilns, with logs.

Success of Dysart, Adamson, from ditto, for Dysart, ditto.

Adventure of Leith, Turnbull, from Riga, for Leith, with flax.

ELIZABETH, Aug. 24.—Wind W. N. W. Fresh gale.

WALTER WOOD.

LEITH SHIPPING.

ARRIVED.

Sept. 9. Betsy and Peggy, Robertson, from Berwick, with grain.

Janet, McFarlane, from Blyth, with ditto.

Cumberland, Wilson, from —, with ditto.

Success, Ferrier, from Crandon, with yeast.

Grizel, Murray, from Queenberry, in ballast.

And three sloops, from Tory and Bo-ness, with coals.

S A I L E D.

Jean, Bell, and Nelly, Tulloch, for Glasgow, with coals.

STRAYED.

From the Park at Ormiston, on Monday the 25th of August.

A BLACK HIGHLAND STOT, with a berried back, and long horns.

Whoever will give information of said stot so as he may be got again, to John McLaren at Ormiston, shall be rewarded for their pains, and all expenses paid.

L A N D S T O S E L L,

In the county of Berwick, and Parish of Coldingham.

TO BE SOLD by public voluntary roup, on Wednesday the 8th day of January 1783, within the house of Mrs Weir vintner in Dunfermline.

The Lands and Estate of MOORHALL, formerly part of the lands of Hillend, containing 164 acres and a half, English measure, all inclosed and subdivided with ditch and hedge. The lands are in the possession of John Constable, the proprietor, all improved, pleasantly situated, and command a fine prospect of the country. They lie just upon the post road, within two miles of Coldingham, nine miles of Berwick upon Tweed, and three miles of Eyemouth, where plenty of lime is to be had at a reasonable price. There is a very neat manor-house on the estate, with an complete set of offices. The lands hold of Mr Home of Wedderburn, and pay an yearly feu-duty of 7 d. Sterling.

For particular apply to the proprietor, attorney in Berwick, or to Thomas Johnson of Templehall, one of Mr Constable's trustees, who has power to conclude a private bargain any time before the sale; and the title-deeds of the lands, and copies of the articles of the roup, may be seen in the hands of Adam Watson writer in Dunfermline.

At London—for Leith and Borrowstounness,

THE UNIT Y,

JAMES GRINDLAY Commander,

is now lying at Hawley's Wharf, near the Hermitage Bridge, taking in goods for Leith and Borrowstounness, and will sail with the first convoy.

Letters addressed to the Master, at the Edinburgh Coffeehouse, No. 1, Swinthe's Alley, will be attended to; or Messrs. Hawley and Down for the master.



The FIRST LESSON for the CHANCE of MINISTRY.

AND it came to pass in the days of G—III. the went on unprosperously; misfortune followed misfortune; defeat came upon defeat.

2. Taxes became high and burdensome, and stocks became low; all negotiation was at a stand, and public credit became like unto nothing.

3. And the Patriots lifted up their voices in loud and violent shrieks, even unto the ears of the King, insomuch that the Majority changed sides, and the Ministry fell.

4. As the cry of the hounds ceaseth when the entrails of the beast are divided among them, so ceased the clamours of the Patriots on the fall of the Ministry.

5. For ten long years had they opposed their measures, and stirred up the people against them; but they found no success, not even in one question, until this day.

6. Now the Leaders of Opposition gathered themselves together, and communed one with another, saying, it is meet that we take unto ourselves good places of profit.

7. And they all got places, yea, even to *Jack T—nd and Sb—n!*

8. And there was among them, a young Patriot, named *P—st*; and he took no place, neither sought he after one, for he was a son of Lord *Ch—th—m*, and the scramble for places was an abomination to him.

9. When the Republicans saw this, they were amazed, and they went to him, saying, what vacant place wilt thou have, seeing thou hast neglected thy opportunity, and got none?

10. And he answered and said, I will accept none; for I know not the grounds of your administration, neither am I ambitious of honours.

11. Then marvelled they one with another, saying, What manner of man is this, that refuseth both honour and profit?

12. Now the appointments of the Ministry, the places they took, and the pensions they granted, are they not written in the political record, called the *Gazette*?

13. Thus the Patriots ruled the state, and they promised great things unto the people; first, the annihilation of pensions and useless places, as proscribed by *Burke*; secondly, the reform of the representation; and, thirdly, peace with America.

14. The hearts of the people leapt for joy at the righteous promises of their leaders; unanimity was restored to our Councils, and vigorous were the measures thereof; for the Rulers gloried in the confidence of the people.

15. But all this was but like unto a whitened sepulchre, for the restless spirit of *Charles F—x* became as it were a lying spirit unto his party, and he deceived them.

16. For lo! it pleased the Lord to visit the Premier with sickness, even unto death.

17. And great was the mourning and lamentation of the people, for the loss of the Premier; for he was an upright conscientious Minister, who studied the welfare of the people, and the constitution.

18. Now the first that disturbed the happy unanimity of the Cabinet, was the *Man of the People*, who being swoln with ambition, determined with himself, HE would be Prime Minister; nevertheless, his party knew not what he wisted, for he was a crafty, and a subtle man.

19. Wherefore went he privily into the palace of the King, and said, O K—g, live for ever! be thy throne the throne of power and influence, and thy word as a flaming sword unto the people.

20. Furthermore, if it please the Lord my King, to place me on his right hand, I will root out faction from the face of the earth, and make his enemies in opposition his footstool.

21. And the King was sorely displeased with the dissimulation of Charles; but he concealed his wrath, and said, Why troublest thou thyself in these matters? he that I appoint, shall he not stand approved?

22. And Charles was smote unto the heart, with the repulse; and he said, I looked for favour in the eyes of the Lord my King, but found I none; wherefore now suffer thy servant to reign: And the King said, depart in peace, according to thy word; for long have I beheld thy double dealing!

23. So he resigned his offices, and with him went out the *Dons* bishires, and *Tommy T—n—d*, was appointed in his stead.

[Thus endeth the First Lesson.]

SEALOCK SHIPPING.

ARRIVED,

Sept. 7. *Barbary Gray*, Anderson, from Blyth, with grain.
Friendship, Smith, from Lynn, with ditto.

Nelly, Tulloch, from Leith, for Glasgow, with sundries.

SAILED,

8. *Jean and Rebecca*, Elder, for Culross, in ballast.
Janet and Betty, Leslie, ditto.

AYR RACES.

TO be run for over Ayr Course, upon Wednesday the 27th September 1782, a Purse of FIFTY POUNDS Sterling, for all ages, carrying the following weights, viz.

Four years old, 7 stone 7 lb. Six years old, 9 stone 2 lb.

Five years old, 8 stone 9 lb. Aged, 9 stone 6 lb.

The best three-four mile heats. The winner of a King's plate this year carrying 3 lb. extra, and the winner of a 30l. this year, 3 lb extra.

On Friday the 27th day of September, FIFTY POUNDS, for all ages, carrying the following weights:

Four years old, 7 stone 7 lb. Six years old, 8 stone 2 lb.

Five years old, 8 stone 5 lb. Aged, 9 stone 2 lb.

The best of three four-mile heats. The winner of a King's plate this year carrying 3 lb. extra, and the winner of a 30l. this year, carrying 3 lb. extra.

The horses to be entered at the King's Arms, Ayr, on Monday the 22d September, between the hours of four and five afternoon. Each horse to pay two guineas entrance, and five shillings to the clerk. A proper certificate to be shown at the time of entering each horse. The winner of the first 30l. not allowed to start for the second purse. Three horses to enter and start for each day, or no race, without the consent of the Stewards.

If any dispute shall arise at entering or running, the same to be determined by the Stewards, or by whom they shall appoint.

An Ordinary to be held at Mr Wharton's, King's Arms, and Balls as usual.

S T E W A R D S,

The EARL of GLENCAIRN,
Sir WILLIAM MAXWELL of Monreith, Bart.
WILLIAM MACDONALD of Garthland, Esq.
JAMES DALRYMPLE of Orangefield, Esq.

EDINBURGH : Printed for and by JOHN and THOMAS ROBERTSON, and sold at their Printing-house in the PARLIAMENT-CLOSE, where ADVERTISEMENTS and SUBSCRIPTIONS are taken in. This Paper is regularly published every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. The price as follows: viz. 4d. 6d. per annum, when sent by post; 6d. when sent to any house in this city or suburbs; 37s. 6d. when called for at the Printing-house; and a single paper 3d.

This Day is published,

In Six Volumes Duodecimo, Price 15s. in boards and 18s. bound, Sold by the Booksellers of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Perth, Stirling, Dumfries, Dundee, &c.

A PHILOSOPHICAL AND POLITICAL HISTORY

OF THE

Settlements and Trade of the Europeans

IN THE EAST AND WEST INDIES.

BY THE ABBE RAYNAL.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,

(Not contained in any former English Edition of this Work)

THE REVOLUTION OF AMERICA.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

A NEW TRANSLATION.

WITH NOTES AND LARGE ADDITIONS BY THE AUTHOR.

AND A COPIOUS INDEX.

EXTRACT from the AUTHOR'S ADVERTISEMENT.

"SUCH renders as have bestowed any attention on *The Philosophical and Political History of the Settlements and Trade of the Europeans in the East and West Indies*, have easily perceived, that the book has been printed in a very different state from that in which it was composed. The several editions are all alike, as they have all been obliged to copy the first, which was evidently done from a mutilated or altered manuscript.

"The work now at length appears as it came from the hands of the Author. Too many mistakes are still to be found in it: but some indulgence will be granted to a writer who wishes to avail himself of the knowledge which well-informed persons choose to communicate to him."

TO THE PUBLIC.

THE first English translation of this work, printed at London in 1776, is evidently done from one of those spurious and mutilated French copies, mentioned in the Author's advertisement. It appears also to have been executed in a hurry. Mistakes and inaccuracies are to be seen in every page; and the errors of the press are very numerous.

Notwithstanding all these disadvantages, the book met with a most favourable reception from the public. The impression was immediately sold off. In consequence of which, two new editions were undertaken the same year; the one at London, the other at Edinburgh. The latter is said, in the title-page, to be with great corrections and improvements. It was, no doubt, an improvement of the former. Many things were altered for the better, and a few passages supplied. But the book still remained very imperfect and inaccurate. Almost in every page omissions may be found. Sometimes two or three words, sometimes as many sentences, and even whole pages are left out in different places. Nor is it accompanied with the Author's notes, which are very useful and entertaining, and sometimes consist of several pages. It also wants, what many will think absolutely necessary in a work of this nature, an *Index*.

To remedy these defects was the intention of the present undertaking. In it the errors of the former versions are attempted to be corrected—the deficiencies are supplied.—*The Revolution of America*, by the same Author, not contained in any former English translation of this work, is also added.—To the whole is subjoined a copious *Index*.

Book-sellers will please apply for copies in quires to W. ANDERSON book-seller, Stirling; or J. ROBERTSON printer, Edinburgh.

G A M E.

COLONEL CAMPBELL having a mind to preserve his Game this season, hopes no Gentlemen, without permission, will shoot or course on the grounds of Boquhan.—Poachers and unqualified persons will be prosecuted.

Notice to Creditors.

WHEREAS the Factor appointed by the Lords of Council and Session upon the sequestrated personal estate of ROBERT KENNEDY of Pinmore has now recovered a considerable part of the said personal estate, and wishes a division thereof to be made amongst the Creditors: Therefore, the whole Creditors of the said Robert Kennedy are hereby required to produce their grounds of debts and claims against the said Robert Kennedy, with oaths of verity thereupon, on or before the 14th day of November next, in the hands of Mr Alexander Orme, principal clerk of Session, and clerk to the said sequestration, in order that a scheme of division of the funds, recovered by the factor may be made out, and the same divided amongst the Creditors, who shall then produce their grounds of debt in terms of the act of Parliament.

LANDS in Kincardine Shire to be SOLD.

TO be SOLD by private SALE, the Town and Lands of HARVIE-STON, Manor-place thereof, Houses and Pertinents, with the Port and White Fishing belonging thereto, situated within the parish of Kinneff, and county of Kincardine; the yearly rent of which is 130l. Sterling. There is payable to the minister of Kinneff 2l. 13s. 4d. Sterling. There is payable to the minister of Kinneff 2l. 13s. 4d. Sterling, a bolls meal and 2 bolls bear; and to the schoolmaster 13s. 3d. Sterling; and a small sum to the archdeacon of St Andrews.—These lands are very convenient for improvement, adjoining to the sea, having a creek for small vessels in the neighbourhood, and are situated within five miles of the town of Stonehaven, and three miles of Inverbervie. Both soil and climate are good, and considerable improvements have been made on the premises by the present tenant, who is substantial, and his lease expires at the end of eight years after Whitunday next, when a considerable advance of rent may be expected. There is a good slated house, two storeys high, on the estate, formerly possessed by the proprietor, with good offices, all slated or tyded. These lands are capable of much greater improvements; they hold of the Crown, and entitle the proprietor to vote for a Member of Parliament.

The progress of rents are clear, and will be shown by William Finlayson writer in Edinburgh; any person intending to purchase may apply to Robert Barclay Allardice of Wry, or James Young writer in Stonehaven. Robert Edward, the tenant, will show the premises.

LANDS IN RENFREW SHIRE.

TO be SOLD by public voluntary roup, within the Exchange Coffe-house in Glasgow, upon Wednesday the 18th day of September instant, betwixt the hours of five and six in the afternoon.

The following FARMS, part of the Lands and Barony of BAROCHAN, lying in the united parishes of Killelland and Houlhoun, and sheriffdom of Renfrew, possessed by the following tenants, at the free yearly rent after mentioned, viz.

	MEASUREMENT.	TOT. RENT.
Barlogan,	A. R. F.	L. S. D.
Lairgh Lawfield,	132 3 20	34 7 0
Widow Scott,	258 2 20	42 12 0
High Lawfield,	56 0 15	18 18 0
Elphinstone,	27 3 0	5 16 0
Margaret Alexander,	144 0 30	36 0 0
Corsehill,	43 1 0	15 12 0
South Kirktown,	66 2 0	16 12 0
Matthew Millar,		
North Kirktown,	Matthew Pattison,	
Muirtown,	Matthew Gibson,	
		10 18 0

These lands lie together, and will be exposed in whole, or in single farms, as most agreeable to purchasers. Being mostly in a state of nature, they are capable of very great improvement. They are situated near the high road leading from Glasgow to Greenock, and are distant from Glasgow about twelve miles.

The articles of roup, rental, and title-deeds, may be seen in the hands of Richard Campbell writer in Edinburgh; to whom, or to Mr William Keith accountant in Edinburgh, who has power to sell by private bargain, any person inclining to purchase may apply.

At London—for Leith,

THE DILIGENCE.

THOMAS SHAW Master,

Now taking in Goods at Hawley's Wharf, and will sail on the 17th current, without waiting for convoy.

NEUTRAL SHIP for St THOMAS.

THE DANISH SNOW CHRISTIAN and KAREN, Andreas Anderson master, is now taking on board goods at Greenock, for the Danish Island of St Thomas, and is expected to be clear to sail about the 1st October. Such as are inclined to embrace the present favourable opportunity of transporting goods to that island, are requested to apply immediately to Hamilton, Maciver, and Co. merchants in Greenock, or to Martin and Kerr merchants in Leith.

The Christian and Karen is a stout vessel, and completely manned with Danish seamen.

SALE of HOUSES and LANDS at BLAIGOWRIE.

TO be SOLD, by public voluntary roup, within the house of William Henderson, vintner, Cupar Angus, on Thursday the 28th of September curr. Between the hours of three and five afternoon. The HOUSES and LANDS lying in and about the village of BLAIGOWRIE, and shire of Perth, which belonged to the deceased James Milmor merchant in Blaigowrie. The subjects consist of several Houses and Shops in the Village, some inclosed in field land, and some out-field, partly for pasture, and partly inclosed and planted.

The village of Blaigowrie is beautifully situated on the banks of the river Ercht, remarkable for fine fishing, and commands a most extensive and delightful prospect of Strathmore and the Stormont. It lies three miles north of Cupar Angus, on the military road to Braemar and Fort George.—The Lands afford many fine situations for building a summer residence, and will be sold or leased out, in whole or in small parcels, and with or without the houses in the village, as purchasers indicate.

The title-deeds and articles of sale may be seen in the hands of William Ramsay clerk, to the signet; to whom, or to one of the proprietors at Cupar Angus, any person wishing to know farther particulars, or to conclude a private bargain, may apply.

SALE of LANDS in ARGYLESHERE, AND PRICES REDUCED since LAST EXPOSED.

TO be SOLD, by public voluntary roup, within the Exchange Coffe-house, Glasgow, upon Wednesday the 18th day of September current, between the hours of twelve mid-day and one in the afternoon, in the LOTS after mentioned:

Lot I. The Lands of DRUMFIN, GARNAIGREACH, DAHLL, and CRAIGLASS, lying in the parish of Knapside.

Lot II. The Lands of THE TWO KIRNANS, KINLOCHLEAN, FERNNOCH, CARRAN, AGHALICK, ACHADAHARY, DUNRINOCH, DARINACARDOCH, and LAGG.—Also, the Lands of KILMICHAEL, and the Lands of BALMORIE, and Common Fishing belonging thereto, on the water of Add. The Lands of SUCCOTH, and LETTERNAMOLT, with the Superiority of the Lands of GLASVAR, BARMULLOGH, and ARILOCHESHEN, all lying in the parish of Kilmichael of Glazie. The superiority of property lands of this lot holding immediately of the Crown, also qualification to vote for a member of Parliament.

The lands are of great extent; from their situation very capable of improvement; and the woods upon them, which are in a fine condition, of considerable value. The lands hold partly of the Crown, and partly of subjects-superior.